

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



**FISCAL NOTE**

**HB 318 – SB 439**

February 11, 2019

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Authorizes the Executive Director of the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) to issue various types of special hunting permits, rather than just elk-take permits, to nonprofit wildlife conservation organizations.

**ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Increase State Revenue – Exceeds \$200,000/Wildlife Resources Fund**

Assumptions:

- Tennessee Code Annotated § 70-2-219(e) currently authorizes the Executive Director of TWRA to issue one special elk-take permit each license year to a nonprofit wildlife conservation organization.
- The organization that receives such permit is authorized to sell or otherwise transfer the permit. Any proceeds from the sale are to be used for the elk program on projects approved by TWRA; provided the organization may retain up to 20 percent of the proceeds for administrative costs.
- In 2018, TWRA issued a special elk-take permit to the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Foundation. The Foundation raffled the special permit, raising almost \$225,000. TWRA received approximately \$200,000 while the Foundation retained approximately \$25,000.
- The proposed legislation will allow TWRA to issue multiple special permits to a nonprofit wildlife conservation organization.
- Assuming at least one additional special permit will be issued as a result of this legislation, the recurring increase in state revenue to the Wildlife Resources Fund is estimated to exceed \$200,000 (\$200,000 per permit x minimum of 1 permit).

**CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner".

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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